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A-70179
ESW

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

John Zajac et al.

Serial No. 09/886,580

Filed: June 21, 2001

For: ETCHING APPARATUS AND
PROCESS WITH THICKNESS
AND UNIFORMITY CONTROLExaminer: Rudy Zervigon
Group Art Unit: 1763

February 2, 2004

OFFICIAL

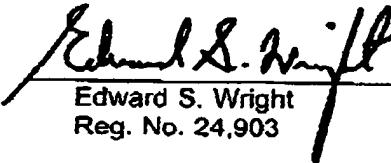
REQUEST FOR WITHDRAWAL OF
NOTICE OF ABANDONMENTCommissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The Notice of Abandonment mailed December 12, 2003 was sent prematurely and in error. Contrary to what is stated in the notice, applicant did respond to the Office Action mailed June 4, 2003 in a timely manner. A responsive amendment was filed by mail on December 4, 2003, with a certificate of mailing and a request for a three month extension of the term for response. Those papers were received in the Patent Office on December 8, as indicated on the attached copy of the return postcard which was submitted with them.

Given the fact that the Notice of Abandonment was mailed only eight days after the response was due, this does not appear to be a case in which the papers were lost in the Patent Office, but simply one in which the notice was sent prematurely. However, if Office does need additional copies, applicant will be happy to provide them.

Respectfully submitted,

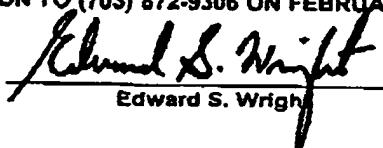


Edward S. Wright
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I CERTIFY THAT THIS REQUEST IS BEING FORWARDED TO THE PATENT OFFICE FOR FILING
VIA FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION TO (703) 872-9306 ON FEBRUARY 2, 2004.



Edward S. Wright

In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

File No. <u>A-70179/ESW</u>	Serial No. <u>09/886,580</u>	Filing Date: <u>June 21, 2001</u>
Date Due: <u>September 4, 2003</u>	Date Mailed: <u>December 4, 2003</u>	Express Mail No.:
Applicant: <u>John Zajac et al.</u>		
Title: ETCHING APPARATUS AND PROCESS WITH THICKNESS AND UNIFORMITY CONTROL		
Enclosures:		Acknowledge receipt of the enclosures by imprinting Patent Office "date stamp" here and returning to addressee noted on reverse.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Request for Three-Month Extension of Time <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Replacement Sheet of Drawing (Figure 1)		 <small>U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</small>